



P.B. 5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ (070) 340 2040
Tx 31651 epo nl
FAX (070) 340 3016

Europäisches
Patentamt
Zweigstelle in
Den Haag
Recherchen-
abteilung

European
Patent Office
Branch at
The Hague
Search
Division

Office européen
des brevets
Département à
La Haye
Division de la
recherche

Winter, Brandl, Furrniss, B. Hübner, Rössner
Kaiser, Polte
Partnerschaft
Patent- und Rechtsanwaltskanzlei
Alois-Steinecker-Strasse 22
85354 Freising
ALLEMAGNE

ROSS KAISER, POLTE PARTNERSCHAFT
PATENT- UND RECHTSANWALTSKANZLEI

Freising

Eing.: 28. Feb. 2003

MUC
PG
KW
DD
HH

Datum/Date

25. 02. 2003

Frist:

Zeichen/Ref./Réf.
560L0635

Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°
01122385.6-1234/

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire
Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits the partial European search report under Rule 46(1) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application.

Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following:

The search Division informs the applicant that if the European search report is also to cover inventions other than the invention first mentioned in the claims, a further search fee must be paid for each of these inventions, within ONE MONTH after notification of this communication.

If the application has been filed up to 30 June 1999, the search fee in force before 01 July 1999 (EUR 869,-) or the equivalent applicable on the date of payment is payable.

This applies also to the search fees requested under Rule 46(1) EPC.

See also OJ EPO 06/1999, 405.

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to the present communication.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.



Note to users of the automatic debiting procedure:

Unless the EPO receives prior instructions to the contrary, the search fee(s) will be debited on the last day of the period for payment. For further details see the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure, Supplement to OJ EPO 02/1999.

REGISTERED LETTER



European Patent
Office

PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

under Rule 46, paragraph 1 of the European Patent Convention EP 01 12 2385

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 5 235 459 A (MEYER MANFRED ET AL) 10 August 1993 (1993-08-10) * abstract; figures 1,6,7 *	1,2	G02B21/00 G02B21/36
A		3,7,8, 12-15	
X	WO 98 14816 A (LUCAS BRIAN RONALD ;CELL ROBOTICS INC (US); CONIA JEROME (US); WOL) 9 April 1998 (1998-04-09) * abstract * * column 7, line 3 - line 6 * * column 8, line 18 - line 19 * * column 28, line 32 - line 35 * * column 29, line 1 - line 3 *	1,2	
A		3,7,8, 12-15	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G02B
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:</p> <p>see sheet B</p> <p>The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		10 February 2003	Seibert, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

5
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C27)



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	AFZAL R S ET AL: "OPTICAL TWEEZERS USING A DIODE LASER" REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. NEW YORK, US, vol. 63, no. 4, 1 April 1992 (1992-04-01), pages 2157-2163, XP000300697 ISSN: 0034-6748 * section II A * * figure 1 *	1,2	
A	---	3,7,8, 12-15	
X	US 4 685 776 A (INOUE YASUO ET AL) 11 August 1987 (1987-08-11) * abstract; figures *	1,2	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A	---	3,7,8, 12-15	
A	DE 721 942 C (ZEISS CARL FA) 24 June 1942 (1942-06-24) * figure *	1,2,12	
A	EP 0 770 848 A (TOPCON CORP) 2 May 1997 (1997-05-02) * figure 6 *	1-3	
A	US 5 481 401 A (KITA NOBUHIRO ET AL) 2 January 1996 (1996-01-02) * column 10, line 58 - line 67 * * column 11, line 1 - line 31 * * figures 1,4-7,9,16 *	1,2,7,8	
A	US 4 143 938 A (FEINBLOOM RICHARD E) 13 March 1979 (1979-03-13) * abstract; figures * --- -/--	1,2,7,8, 12-15	



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-3,7,8,12-15

Inverted microscope with attachable/detachable cameras.

2. Claims: 4-6,9-11

Inverted microscope with builtin image display.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 12 2385

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

10-02-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5235459	A	10-08-1993	DE 3938412 A1	23-05-1991
			DE 3938413 A1	23-05-1991
			AT 138482 T	15-06-1996
			DE 59010338 D1	27-06-1996
			EP 0429005 A2	29-05-1991
			JP 3032901 B2	17-04-2000
			JP 3172816 A	26-07-1991
			US 5138486 A	11-08-1992
			AT 165171 T	15-05-1998
			DE 59010819 D1	20-05-1998
			EP 0433658 A2	26-06-1991
			JP 3069911 B2	24-07-2000
			JP 3172817 A	26-07-1991
WO 9814816	A	09-04-1998	AU 4562497 A	24-04-1998
			WO 9814816 A1	09-04-1998
US 4685776	A	11-08-1987	JP 1742976 C	15-03-1993
			JP 4030565 B	22-05-1992
			JP 60053915 A	28-03-1985
			DE 3432635 A1	04-04-1985
DE 721942	C	24-06-1942	NONE	
EP 0770848	A	02-05-1997	WO 9221057 A1	26-11-1992
			EP 0770848 A1	02-05-1997
			EP 0539609 A1	05-05-1993
			US 5307098 A	26-04-1994
US 5481401	A	02-01-1996	JP 3324780 B2	17-09-2002
			JP 5127096 A	25-05-1993
US 4143938	A	13-03-1979	NONE	
US 4567478	A	28-01-1986	AT 21286 T	15-08-1986
			DE 3365065 D1	11-09-1986
			EP 0088985 A1	21-09-1983
			JP 1764710 C	28-05-1993
			JP 4052442 B	21-08-1992
			JP 58168027 A	04-10-1983
US 5579156	A	26-11-1996	CH 689703 A5	31-08-1999
			DE 19517476 A1	23-11-1995
			JP 7318814 A	08-12-1995